pennsylvania musician

magazine

Vol.40 #476 June 2023

MATT JAMESON

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Sat. 6/10 - Roots for Boots Benefit Gettysburg, PA 11am-4pm
Sat. 6/10 - Grandpa's Love Shack, Shermans Dale, 5:30-7:30p
Sun. 6/11 - Antietam Brewery, Hagerstown, MD, 4-7pm
Tues. 6/13 - Cold Springs Inn, Mechanicsburg, PA, 6-9pm
Wed. 6/14 - Blue Sky Open Mic, Goldsboro, PA, 6:30-9:30pm
Thurs. 6/15 - Westgate Rest. & Lounge, York, PA 7-10pm
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Sat. 6/17 - Open for Marc Roberge, Hershey Vineyards 4-5:30p
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Fri. 6/23 - Jimmy Jaxxx Shine Shack, Dillsburg, PA, 7-10pm
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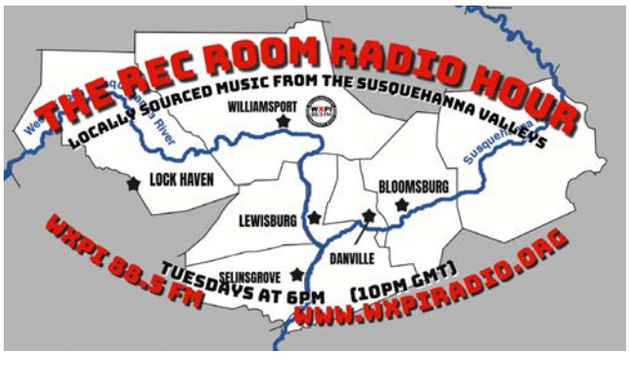
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-Field Editors-
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Rachel Rocks.....Out & About

Eric Hoffman.....National

Chris Rider.....Rider's on the Storm

June 2023 Cover photo by Rachel Rocks

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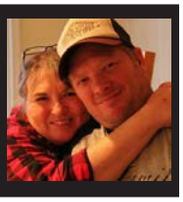
EDITOR RAMBLINGS
By Josh Noll



Hello and welcome back! It's a big month for me as June marks 5 years since I decided to keep Dad's dream alive. It really feels more like 5 mins ago, that I was sitting in this same chair worrying about how I could step in and "keep the ship afloat", as Dad would say. It seemed like an impossible task for a guy who grew up hammering nails and screwing loose boards for a living. *"The internet has taken over and print is dead!"* I was told one night at a party years before Mother made the decision to retire the paper. Maybe that's why I took it over, just to prove some drunk guy wrong. But mainly for Dad, whose legacy must live on! If not in life, then in the printed pages of the PA Musician Magazine. I don't know how many times in the last 5 years someone has said *"Hey I'm in an old issue of that paper, I have the issue at home"* . Or *"My band was on the cover once"*. That's why I do what I do. Also it's a great job! Way better then hammering nails! I'm now hammering keys on the computer!.

I couldn't have done it without all the help I get each month from my amazing team. Even though Mom wanted to retire, she still helps out with making sure we get to press each month. She still does her own paper, The Shopper's Remedy, so we help each other keep on schedule. I could not do it without her.. PERIOD.. Also Rachel Noll aka Rachel Rocks (some people still don't know she is my sister haha). She is the FACE of PA Musician Magazine. She wanted to retire the "Rocks" part of Rachel but I felt it wasn't her time. I'm thrilled to see how she has grown in the past 5 years and now has a "real job" in the music industry and still somehow manages to help me with the paper. Good thing she likes to be so busy! When they both do really decide to "retire" I may be in serious trouble, might need to find a new hammer.

Also big THANK YOUS to Jim Price, Eric Hoffman and Chris Rider. People don't realize that our writers are volunteers. When they go to see your show it's because they want to, not because I made them. They somehow hit the deadlines each month on top of keeping up with their day jobs and life duties. It takes a true passion for the local music scene to take on this task. Thank you guys for being the most dependable bunch of Rocker 'N' Rollers I know!

Also to the delivery team who helps me distribute all the papers each month. Too many to list really, some of the main ones being Rachel Rocks, Sterling Koch, Keith Hummel, Some guy named "SPACE"! and the army of supporters Jim Price has helping him reach the far North. The support we get from the local music community is amazing. I love you all! If you ever need a ride or help with a flat give me a ring!

Lastly, the main reason I am still here typing, is all of our faithful advertisers who support the paper. We have some advertisers who have been in the paper since day one and some since they opened shop 41 years ago. It's amazing to me how many supporters we have. New and old, without each of you the paper wouldn't be here. I appreciate each and every one of you.

Wowza, so for the 5 year reunion, and due to the overwhelming support of the local music community! We are now up 8 pages from 24 to 32. So the paper is a little thicker and we can now have some bigger pics along with highlighting some other local music journalist along the way. Another scary step but if interest keeps up so will the pages.

The next big thing is we our launching a new updated website! Sorry to everyone if the old one isn't working or is outdated. We decided to focus on the new site vs fixing whatever technical issue we are having with the old site (I'm no internet genius and they told me this couldn't be fixed with a hammer). Keep your eyes peeled to our facebook for updates on the new website.

So what did I do to prepare for this issue? I went and rocked out with Harrisburg legends The Martini Bros! It's always a good time when Deuce and boys take to the stage. Some of my earliest Rock and Roll memories are of Reggie banging on the drums back in the Inciters days. Always a good show and this time was out under the stars in the hills of Perry County at the Free Spirit Campground Music Fest. Check out the ad in this issue for the next event at Free Spirit. July 21-23rd for the Earth Festival. They have a full list of bands and its shaping up to be another amazing weekend of music.

Well that's it for this month hopefully saved enough room for a pic or two. If you want to join in on the fun and become one of our faithful supporters, so I can appreciate you like I should. Then email me! joshnoll@pamusician.net call me 717-636-4203 or text. this line must be working. I dare you to try it! Deadline for the July 2023 issue is Friday, June 23rd.

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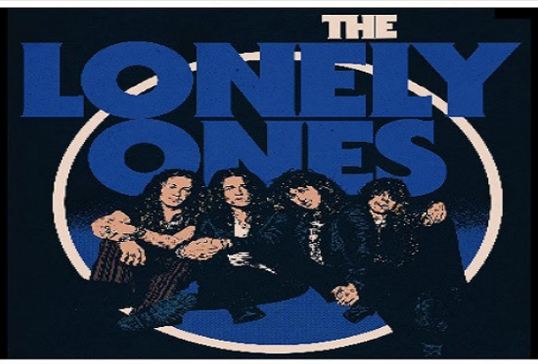

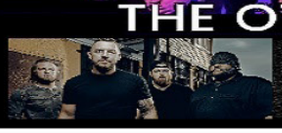

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OUT 'N' ABOUT

By Rachel Rocks

WhooHOO! Summer is here! Decks are open, music is outside, the weather is warm and wonderful! It's definitely my favorite time of the year. June also marks Josh's 5th Year Anniversary as the Editor/Owner of the PA Musician Magazine. I can't believe it's been 5 years! I remember laughing out loud when he said he was going to take over the magazine, but in true Josh fashion, when he puts his mind to something he excels at it, and he never gives up! It's awesome to see the magazine still going strong with no end in sight. Congrats Josh! I love you oh so much! Speaking of which, my deadline is looming, so I better keep typing!

This past month I had the opportunity to go to two open mics at Blue Sky Tavern. I love open mics because not only are they on a Wednesday, but I also have the opportunity to see so many different musicians in one place. Two big standouts this month were Markus Pearson and JJ Beauvais. Markus Pearson and his little family moved up to PA from Arkansas. Markus's wife is a visiting nurse, and one amazing thing is music travels, Markus didn't let any grass grow under his feet, he was at the open mic before he even slept in his new bed! Markus played some good old Lynyrd Skynyrd, but also played two originals. All of which were fantastic! He already got some local shows booked, if you see his name at a venue near you, stop and give him a listen.

JJ Beauvais *photo by Rachel Rocks*

JJ Beauvais is originally from Pottsville, PA, him and his family have been living in an RV and traveling the country sharing the gospel through music, but they are back in town for a few months. He's out there, hitting up open mics and trying to work his way back into the scene, JJ has an amazing voice and not only has a bunch of original music, he also plays covers as well.

Cinco de Mayo hit a little differently this year as a sober person, but it was still a night to get out there and celebrate! It all started with a trip to McSherrystown Moose for Matt Jameson. In true Matt fashion by the end of the night he had the requests flying and people on the dance floor. One of them even joined him on the stage, well technically two, because Chris Redding from Road Case also got up on stage with Matt and sang "She Talks to Angels," what a special treat! Matt Jameson Acoustic is on our cover this month, if you'd like to read all about his adventure into the music world, you can read all about it in the cover story.

My next stop was at Sierra Madre for Swisher Sweets annual Cinco de Mayo show. I got there later in the night, but I had friends who were there since 3 o'clock in the afternoon! I couldn't

continued on page 10...

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6/11 - Zach Nyce
6/15 - Markus Pearson
6/16 - Leo Disanto
6/17 - Electric Love (Music of The Cult) & The Cretins (Music of The Ramones)
6/18 - Pocono Jones and The Bear
6/22 - Kirk Folk
6/23 - Rapid Run
6/24 - Nashville Recording Artist - Christian Yeager -
6/25 - Mari Mazziotti
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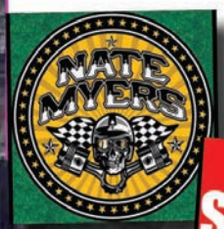

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Sunday 06/18 - **TBD**
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OUT & ABOUT continued...

believe the amount of people jammed in the Sierra Madre, they even brought in tents outside for more covered seating. People were glued together in that place! It was nearly impossible to move from one side to the other. Sierra Madre definitely knows how to throw one heck of a party, and the Swisher Sweets did a great job at keeping the party flowing all night long!

I finally had a free solo Saturday and I took full advantage of this very rare opportunity. I started out early with a trip to The Vineyard and Brewery at Hershey for DMC Duo. It was a gorgeous day, and they were able to play to a packed patio of people enjoying the music and the weather. DMC Duo perform a lot of songs that people can't help but sing along too, they had a whole table of women even using their wine bottles as microphones to sing along to "Total Eclipse of the Heart" it was just beautiful! Don't forget DMC Duo have now reached into the realm of original music, so ask Alexa or anyone to play "DMC Duo" on any/all of your favorite streaming services.

After their show I zoomed to the Doyle Hotel in Duncannon for Blind Accuracy and The Cretins. I've seen quite a few acoustic shows at the Doyle, but this was my first ballroom show. It's awesome how they have this other option for music in Duncannon. Blind Accuracy ia an original punk/ska band that really has some amazing originals that quickly get you up and dancing around. Their energy is infectious and their lyrics are hilarious yet heartfelt! You can't help but smile and dance along, all night long. They were a perfect fit to get the night started for The Cretins, a Ramone's tribute band. The Cretins also put on one heck of a show with all of your favorite Ramone's songs. It's definitely a unique tribute band to the area and a lot people love the Ramones so therefore, they have a great fan base that was out in full force to support live music. Since I recently caught The Cretins I stuck around for a couple songs, and then I continued on with my adventure.

Up next was a zoom out the road to Shermans Creek Inn for Stonewood. Stonewood plays so many shows, it's surprising I don't see them more often. The Shermans Creek Inn was absolutely packed and everyone was dancing and singing along. The members of Chasin' Whiskey were in the house out supporting a fellow local band, that always hits me in the feels when I see musicians supporting musicians. Shannon is an amazing front woman! Not only is she an amazing singer, but she's right out there with the crowd dancing her heart out. She's also backed with an amazing band filled with awesome vocalists so their song list is all over the place, you never know what they will pull off next! One thing guaranteed is every Stonewood show is a party! If you like country music, do yourself a favor, check out their schedule, and make your plans for a wild night out on the town!

continued on next page...

Blind Accuracy *photo by Rachel Rocks*

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OUT & ABOUT continued...

You would think that was enough for one day, but when I was heading home I realized I could make it to Hollywood Casino in Grantville for Nicks in Time's last set, so I zoomed by my house and out to Grantville. Nicks in Time was playing in the H-Lounge and they had the dance floor packed when I got there. Kathy MacFeat (Stevie) does an amazing job, not only with obviously her vocals, but also her moves.. The whole band really put on a fantastic job. Tara Reber was Kathy's back up vocalist and also sang lead on a few songs and they nailed every song. I'm glad I found the energy to zoom out and see their last set, it was well worth the drive and the lack of sleep.

Racehorse Tavern had a special Sunday evening show by Faith Noel to kick off their St. Jude Benefit Week. The Racehorse Tavern had a full week of guest bartenders and acoustic acts, topped off with a Saturday full of music all day long! In the end Racehorse Tavern was able to donate $9,270 to St. Jude! That's pretty darn amazing! Thanks to all who donated their time and their talents to this amazing cause. I was out of town pretty much all week, but I'm so glad I made it down for Faith Noel. I've never seen Faith perform a whole set and she absolutely killed it. Faith won the CPMA Award for Best Youth Artist for 2022 and you can definitely see why. She is writing amazing originals and covering some artists better than the artists themselves, all while having the time of her life. Just this past week she officially graduated from High School! Congrats Faith on keeping it all together, a job, school, and your musical goals! It will be awesome watching to see what you do next!!

I also finally had a free Tuesday so I could go to Lovedrafts and check out one of 717 Entertainment's killer line-ups. Nick is bringing in some amazing touring bands all days of the week! You really need to keep a close eye on his schedule in his ad, or on his website, www.717Entertainment.com, so you don't miss an amazing opportunity to see one of your favorites! On this night Dropout Kings had to unfortunately "drop out" at the last second for personal reasons, but I'm so glad the show went on! Nail Bite kicked things off, and I was so happy to see these crazy kids again! They are just popping out originals like candy with so many twists and turns, and they've really been honing in on their craft making every song even tighter if that's humanly possible! They keep releasing songs, videos, and announcing tour dates, so they must be doing something right!

Next were the men of Defiant! Way too long since I've seen these guys! They are also crushing it in the music world, releasing new music and videos that are getting lots of attention! Right before they took the stage they found out their latest song "Ignite the Sky" hit #25 on the Secondary Market Mainstream and Active Rock Charts! Congrats guys!! "Ignite the Sky" is definitely ignit-

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Faith Noel *photo by Rachel Rocks*

DEEP SPACE 90's
SCAN ME
Playing all the greatest songs from the 90's
6/2/23 - Duke's Riverside - Wormleysburg, PA
6/9/23 - Fenderz Grille & Pub - York, PA
6/16/23 - Harrah's Resort - Atlantic City, NJ
6/24/23 - Fiorentino's - Lititz, PA
7/14/23 -Stoner Grille - Lancaster, PA
7/28/23 - Burning Bridge - Wrightsville, PA

ing the ears and hearts of music lovers across the US and beyond! It's been amazing watching these guys rock area stages. June 21st they will be back at Lovedrafts opening the night for The Native Howl, alongside Observe the 93rd. That's definitely going to be a killer show!

Hate Grenade continued to blow up the stage with their energy and their music. Another group I haven't seen for quite some time since they are from the Altoona area. I'm glad they made the trip and helped my neck hurt just a little bit more the next day! Even though I don't see them, it's important to remember to keep adding our original artists to all streaming platforms so we can continue to support their original music! Just because you don't see bands on the stage doesn't mean they aren't out there grinding away!

Speaking of grinding I never saw Through Fire before but they did an awesome job at stepping up to be the headlining act! They came out with full-force energy and the crowd gave it back to them 10 fold. The mosh pit lit up, and the crowd was loving every second. It constantly amazes me how many bands/artists I discover every month where I say, "where have you been all my life!" Thanks guys for the entertainment!

Bob Randall- Nashville Recording artist, multipule award winner, toured with national acts, Seven CD's 5 videos on Youtube.
Al Paul- Recording engineer @ double-A-productions. Former lead guitarist for Youth in Asia & Rockids.

Song list includes, Bob Randall Orignals, Real Country Outlaw, Classic Rock-Oldies, Johnny Cash to Kansas!

New Album Out Soon
On Band Camp and Spotify

6/3 Herndon Fire Company Benefit, Herndon 7-9
6/17 Iron Bridge Festival New Cumberland time TBA Full band
7/1 Castlerigg Wine Shop Carlisle 4-7
7/15 Private Party "Troy's Bronco Days" Dornsife
7/23 Jack's Spot Pitman 4-8
8/6 Cortland Music Park Cortland NY 3-5 Full band
9/10 Peir 87 Williamsport
10/7 Private Party

Bookings: Bobrandallmusic@yahoo.com
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Hate Grenade *photo by Rachel Rocks*

My month ended with lots of weekend travel, but I did manage to squeeze in some acoustic shows during the week. I saw Derek Henry at Fratelli's in New Cumberland. It has been a while since I made it into Fratelli's, I'm so glad they had Derek back in there for a night of fun with friends, oh and of course Derek. I also managed to catch Derek at Thea's in Mechanicsburg, it's awesome that they are hosting live music on a Tuesday. That allows for opportunity for full time musicians to get another night to perform. Derek has really been focused on his full band, Observe the 93rd, they've been busy touring and releasing new music. Their latest release, "Mad as a Hatter" has already been featured on 105.7 the X, and is a song packed with emotion with a musical riff that quickly draws you in and makes you turn the music up! Observe the 93rd will be opening for Puddle of Mudd at XL Live on June 3rd, but they also have some other local shows coming up you don't want to miss. Follow along and hear all of their music on their website, observethe93rd.com.

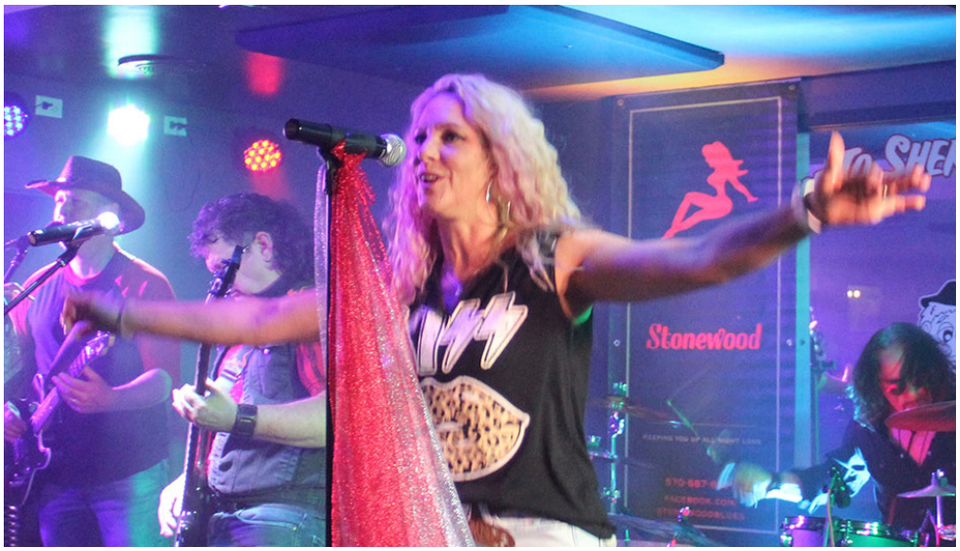
Derek Henry *photo by Rachel Rocks*

I also of course saw Matt Jameson Acoustic at the Union House and Copper Pub just to name a few! Not only does Union House have live music, but their food is delicious, and from previous visits there, I can tell you, their drinks are delicious too! The Union House is one of those off the beaten path places that deserves a special trip to enjoy and appreciate all they have to offer. Check out their schedule in this issue and get out there and support live music and a small business! This was Matt's second time there, and it was awesome to see some tables reserved and people came prepared with requests and ready to party! The Copper Pub was packed with fans, friends, and family as well. We all definitely had their servers hopping all night long. It was an absolutely gorgeous night. The deck wasn't big enough for this party, they luckily are able to extend their seating into the parking lot with picnic tables, and you can even bring your own chair if you prefer to make sure you have a seat! It's so awesome to see familiar faces at Matt's shows. I can promise you, I'm not his only groupie! HA!

BRP Entertainment kept me busy this month, working with the Village People, yep.. YMCA!! And I have to hurry up and finish this article so I can catch my flight to go catch a few laughs with Rodney Carrington!! When I get back from Indiana, I plan on hitting up Free Spirit Campground for their MusicFest 2023, so that will have to wait to be mentioned in my July article!

I hope you all have a happy and safe start to kick off your Summer! Please get out there and support live music, and if you can manage to throw a couple bucks in their tip buckets, I'm sure they would appreciate it. If you can't do that, you can always just

Steel *photo by Rachel Rocks*



Stonewood *photo by Rachel Rocks*

follow and like them on all social media sites, and of course continue to stream their original music! Thanks for reading, and please stop me and say Hi when you see me Out and About.. And I know I've been talking about it a while now.. But soon, very soon.. We will have an updated, super awesome website! www.pamusician.net.

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Sat. 6/17 MAXX 22
Fri.6/23 DURTY ROTTEN PARROTS
Sat. 6/24 SECOND BREAKFAST
Fri. 6/30 VINCE ROLLINS
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6:00 – 9:00

Fri., 6/9 – HOLLYWOOD CASINO – MORGANTOWN
Barstool Sportsbook Outdoor Patio
Morgantown, PA
6:00 – 8:00

Wed., 6/14 – MT GRETNA HIDEAWAY
Mt. Gretna, PA
6:00 – 9:00

Fri., 6/16 – DOC & BUBBA'S
Mohnton, PA
6:00 – 9:00

Sun., 6/18 – GIN MILL
Lebanon, PA
2:00 – 5:00

Fri., 6/23 - BLUE BIRD INN
Lebanon (Cornwall), PA
7:00 – 10:00

Fri., 6/30 – DOWNTOWN LOUNGE
Lebanon, PA
7:00 – 10:00

For Bookings, Call 717-507-2299
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Markus Pearson *photo by Rachel Rocks*

NATIONALS

By Eric Hoffman

Greetings Rockers 'N' Rollers! The Yeah Yeah Yeahs began their current tour at Washington DC's Anthem on May 3rd. The NYC indie rock trio reunite infrequently for just a few performances a year. The band is currently promoting their first album in 9 years, "Cool It Down", with 13 concert dates in America. Yeah Yeah Yeahs opening night sold-out Anthem's 6,000 capacity and the band ripped through an amazing set of 15 songs.

San Diego noise pop band, Crocodiles, returned to the East Coast in the midst of their 21-date North American Tour. The band played Philadelphia's Kung Fu Necktie on May 5th and the following day played two shows, a matinee at Baltimore's Metro Gallery and an evening show at Washington DC's Pie Shop. Crocodiles have a new record titled, "Upside Down in Heaven", and once played Harrisburg's Stage On Herr in October 2017.

A new punk venue opened in York on May 12th - Skid Row Garage is now legit after years of DIY garage shows in an alley. The new location at 243 W. Market Street hosted legendary street punks The Virus for its grand opening along with Fless Terror and Olde Tigers. Congratulations to MC Hyser on his business success which will bring many great punk shows to York.

The Menzingers returned to Harrisburg for a third time at HMAC's Capitol Ballroom on May 13th. The Philadelphia based-band, originally from Scranton, sold-out HMAC for the final show of their current tour. A Wilhelm Scream and Ramona provided support for a really great show.

Harrisburg University continues to fill the Capital City with live concerts, recently Father John Misty at The Forum on April 27th and Frank Turner at XL Live on May 9th. Congratulations to talent buyer Frank Schofield of Harrisburg University on completing his 100th concert endeavor with the Frank Turner perfor-

continued on next page...

I Like Drums LLC Presents: Matt Starr (Mr. Big, Ace Frehley, KIX)
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NATIONALS continued...

mance. It's amazing to think of all the shows that were complete sell-outs including, Rick Ross, Muna, Waterparks, Alt-J, Elle King, Turnstile, Lord Huron, Wet Leg, All Time Low, Black Pumas, Teddy Swims, among others.

Tina Turner, often hailed as the "Queen of Rock & Roll" died near Zurich, Switzerland, after a lengthy illness. She was 83. Turner's career consisted of two distinct and historic acts – as a performer with her ex-husband Ike & Tina Turner, which she walked away from after years of domestic violence. She re-emerged as a solo artist soon after but exploded back onto the charts with her 1984 release of blockbuster album, Private Dancer, with hits including the title track, "What's Love Got To Do With It," and "Better Be Good To Me." With admirers ranging from Beyoncé to Mick Jagger, Turner was considered David Bowie's favorite female singer. Her trademarks were her growling contralto, bold smile and the muscular, quick-stepping legs she did not shy from showing off. Turner is survived by her second husband, Erwin Bach, who she met in the mid-1980s when she flew to Germany for record promotion and he picked her up at the airport. She wed Bach in 2013, exchanging vows at a civil ceremony in Switzerland.

After 45 years, veteran rockers KIX will play their final show on September 17 at Merriweather Post Pavilion in Columbia, MD. The Baltimore-based act, which formed in 1977, announced their plan to call it quits at the recent M3 Rock Festival at Merriweather. While onstage, singer Steve Whiteman announced the final show, "I think we're gonna call it a career. My health is failing. Jimmy's health is definitely failing. It's sad, but it's just time." In Nov 2022, drummer Jimmy Chalfant collapsed onstage while suffering a cardiac arrest. Whiteman claims he has neuropathy in his feet. Guitarist, Ronnie Younkins has been unable to tour the past couple years battling alcoholism. And most recently, on May 20th, guitarist Brian Forsythe was admitted to the ER for unknown reasons missing KIX's performance in Solomons, MD. Both, Ronnie Younkins and former guitarist, Brad Divens, will play as guests at the final show. KIX have been unequivocally one of the most popular and greatest bands to ever play Central PA for over 4 decades and we have a chance to see them one more time on stage in Harrisburg as KIX will be performing at XL Live June 16th.

Mechanicsburg native, Bret Michaels, has announced his return to the mid-state bringing his Parti Gras Tour to Grantville's Hollywood Casino on August 26th. The Poison frontman states, "An incredible concert, honoring our hometown heroes and going to honor all of our hometown musicians. A celebration of the fans, the bands, the music, the food, the fun all things Central PA." Michaels, was in Grantville on May 19th to promote the event. Glam metal band, Warrant, will provide support for the show.

The Virus at York's Skid Row Garage

Aerosmith unveiled their final tour dates as the band bids

continued on next page...

NATIONALS continued...

farewell to the road. The last run features support from The Black Crowes on all 40 dates. The Live Nation-produced trek kicks off on September 2nd in Philadelphia, with stops in Pittsburgh on September 6th and Washington DC on September 27th. "It's not goodbye, it's PEACE OUT!" Aerosmith said in a joint statement. "Get ready and walk this way, you're going to get the best show of our lives." Joey Kramer will be absent from the tour, "to focus his full attention on his family and health."

Foo Fighters revealed Josh Freese as the band's new drummer during a livestream promoting the bands upcoming summer tour that marks their first performances in the wake of late drummer Taylor Hawkins' death last year. Freese most recently worked with the Offspring, and has contributed to records by Lana Del Rey, Rob Zombie, Bruce Springsteen and more. Freese also has experience touring having been a member of Devo, Guns N' Roses, Nine Inch Nails, Weezer and more throughout his live career.

Post Malone announced he will be back on the road this summer with the "If Y'all Weren't Here, I'd Be Crying" tour to promote his much-anticipated fifth full-length album, "Austin". The Grammy-nominated artist will visit 24 cities in July and August. "I love y'all so very much and I'm so excited to get out and do some more shows for y'all," Post Malone said in a statement. "Help me put a baby through college and come on out. Some cool new production, new songs, and a very, very handsome man up on stage. Sending love to you and yours." Post Malone, an eight-time diamond-certified global star, will visit Burgettstown, PA on July 12th and Camden, NJ on July 25th.

Steve Nicks has added 13 more dates to her 2023 Tour. The renowned singer-songwriter of the legendary band Fleetwood Mac had a successful run in 2022 and is carrying that momentum into this year. Nicks, will play Pittsburgh's PPG Paints Arena on September 27th and Allentown's PPL Center on November 4th.

Pearl Jam have announced Fall Tour dates with nine new shows in Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana and Texas. Inhaler will join as support in Chicago, Indianapolis and Austin, while support for St. Paul and Fort Worth will be announced in coming weeks.

Sting and Shaggy have unveiled their collaborative festival, 'One Fine Day', which takes place at The Mann Center in Philadelphia on September 9th. The festival features two stages with Sting and Shaggy joining as headliners, including a joint set. Thundercat, Koffee, Tank & The Bangas, G. Love & Special Sauce, Kes, Flor de Toloache and Giordana Angi all join Sting and Shaggy for the one-day event.

U2 continues adding dates to its extended "U2: UV Achtung Baby Live At Sphere," run – don't call it a residency – in Las Vegas with eight new dates, bringing the total to 25 shows that will kick off the concert experience at Sphere at the Venetian resort. The new dates take U2's run from September 29 through November 4th. With more than 1 million ticket request registrations already taken these performances mark U2's first live shows in four years.

With an April 8th performance at Baltimore's newly renovated CFG Bank Arena, Eagles completed the "Hotel California Tour" that commemorated the band's iconic 1976 album with all its songs played beginning to end, along with a set of the group's greatest hits. With 90 concerts performed in North American markets, combined grosses show a total box-office haul in the $250 million range and the tour drew over 1 million fans.

Live Nation Entertainment reported $3.1 billion in revenue for the first quarter of 2023. "2023 is off to a tremendous start," stated Live Nation. "For the first time in three years, all of our markets are fully open. The common theme we are seeing around the world is that live experiences are a high priority for fans. The company has sold 90 million tickets for 2023 shows thus far, 20 percent higher than the same point in 2022. Ticketmaster should also deliver record activity, with around 600 million tickets managed globally this year."

JUNE CONCERTS: Rye Rye - Baltimore Inner Harbor Amphiheater June 3. The Pixies - Washington DC Atlantis June 6. Bryan Adams / Joan Jett and the Blackhearts - Baltimore CFG Bank Arena June 6. Jeffrey Gaines / The Badlees - Fort Hunter Park June 10. Love & Rockets - Silver Spring Fillmore June 11. KIX - Harrisburg XL Live June 16. Tom Keifer - Reading Santander Arena June 23. The Cure - Merriweather Post Pavilion June 25. lovelytheband - Harrisburg XL Live June 27.

Crocodiles at Baltimore's Metro Gallery

Matt Jameson ~ Mysteries Revealed

Article & photos by Rachel Rocks

Matt Jameson Acoustic: Where'd he come from? How does he get so many gigs? What's his secret to success? Please read on for all of the answers and more..

Matt (Bynum) Jameson, currently lives in Harrisburg, but he was born and raised in Ft. Worth Texas. When he was young his Mom was a bartender at Joe's Garage, yes, the same place where a little band named Pantera used to play, a lot! He used to hang with his older sister, Angie, and her friends, and in that area and time there were a lot of metal bands and music with amazing guitar solos, and before he knew it, when he was 15, he was already in his 1st "band" making music with his friends. At 16, he left home and started touring with the Renaissance Faire. He was hawking wares, and believe it or not, had his hair in dreads. He thanks that experience for helping him have the stage presence he has today. In 2000 he moved to PA where he worked in many different trades and focused on raising his family. In 2009 he started rehearsing with a band called Wrench, unfortunately that only lasted a few months when he realized that at that time he just had to focus on his family and he dropped music all together and started up his own business, a truck lot, in Dillsburg.

After a few years, in 2019, he was newly separated, and his good friend, Scott Troup, convinced him to go out to the D.A.M. Party, where he met his now, super amazing wife, Holly. Holly, who is my [Rachel Rocks] best friend, so we all started going out to shows together. Seeing and hearing all of the different performers was giving Matt the itch to start playing music again. When Covid hit Matt unfortunately, with the help of the government, lost his car lot after being shut down for what was originally 2 weeks, which turned into months. During Covid we would get together and watch livestreams, and one night Matt showed up with a guitar. From his first song, I was hooked. As Rachel Rocks I hear a lot of performers and I knew he needed to be playing his own shows.

Matt would play some of his "Texas Music," two of his biggest inspirations were Chris Whitley and Ian Moore, and pretty much every show he pulls out "Blue on Black" by Kenny Wayne Shepherd. It was awesome hearing him knock the dust off his guitar and play again, every week I saw his confidence build. Finally, when live music started happening again, we were out supporting Derek Henry, Derek offered to have Matt come up and play a couple songs during his break, right away Angie Finney, told Matt he had a very unique voice and he can play during Derek's breaks anytime. Angie was the first "outsider" that gave Matt that extra push he needed to realize that maybe he could play out again.

Matt encouraged me to play the ukulele along with him and we had a little stint playing together in our duo, Staying Vertical, we started going to open mics so I could get some experience on stage, and Matt would also play a few songs solo, and people kept telling him they loved hearing him play, which sealed the deal; he started buying equipment, more guitars, etc, and he was ready to perform! After playing at Fratelli's during Derek's break, he got his first solo show, which was April 9th, 2022. By September he started talking with Dave Gates about what it's like to play as a full-time musician, Dave really took him under his wing and mentored him on the ins and outs of the local scene. He opened up quite a few avenues for Matt, and by October he quit his full-time desk job, and with the amazing support of his beautiful wife, Holly, he became a full-time musician and he hired me, Rachel Rocks, to be his manager.

Matt hit the pavement hard! When asked about his trick to getting so many gigs, his answer was "Phone calls, Messages, Emails, and Showing up, over and over again." Dave and Matt went to Maryland on a road trip together and hit up a few places, and they are both playing regular shows at those places now. He

hit the scene at the perfect time because venues were just starting to open their calendars for 2023, and Matt jumped on the opportunity to pick up shows people had to cancel over the holidays, which helped him secure future shows in 2023. You really have to be ready and willing to play anytime and anywhere. Matt has been very blessed to also have people referring him to venues, which definitely goes a long way when they've heard his name before he connects with them, he is very grateful for each and every one of the people that support him on and off the stage.

To keep track of all of his shows Matt is using the app Bandsintown. It's super simple to input your show information, and the cool part is the events transfer over to his main website, www.mattjamesonacoustic.com.

One thing venues really like is to see is how much Matt promotes himself. He has all of the necessary social media sites, but he also advertises faithfully in the PA Musician Magazine, and keeps his website updated and current. Matt's goofy Facebook posts have brightened people's days. He makes sure to post about shows before they happen, and it's equally as important to post about shows when they are over so people can see what they missed, and it helps to promote the venue even more, which obviously the venues love. Matt is not a fan of social media, it definitely takes lots of coaxing from me, aka, the "manager" but we know "teamwork makes the dreamwork" so with all of us

working together we can get things done, and make things happen! Some of the hashtags Matt makes sure to use in every post are: #musicmademedoit, #greattimeswithgreatpeople, #letsdothistogether.

Matt has over 100 shows booked for the rest of the year and has very limited availability, but he could definitely play on a Monday, Tuesday, or even still some Wednesdays He also has his calendar ready to start booking into 2024, so book him now before his calendar is filled. You can give him a call directly at 717-497-9011 or email MattJamesonAcoustic@gmail.com to get him booked at your venue or private party.

Matt's other super strength that really sets him above the rest is his stage presence. Even though Matt only started playing in April of 2022, he was already nominated for the Best Male Artist in the Central PA Music Awards, if you go see him play a show, you will see why. He quickly draws people in and has them singing and dancing away in no time! Matt does a great job at mixing all genres of music. He easily flows from Rock to Country, Modern to Classic, Johnny Cash to Slayer, the Foo Fighters to the Rolling Stones, and a lot of artists in between! One thing for sure is at every show, Matt is there to have a good time, and it shows!

Matt wouldn't be able to do any of this if it wasn't for his amazing support system: There are way too many people to list, but just to name a few, his very supportive wife Holly, who is constantly encouraging him to live his dream, his amazing big sister Angie for taking him to blues bars and metal concerts and introducing him to a wide range of music at a young age, Scott Troup for dragging him out that one night, not too long ago, Derek and Angie for believing in him when he didn't believe in himself, again Dave Gates for showing him the ropes, the PA Musician Magazine for their constant support, all of his many family, fans and friends that come out and support him at shows, and most importantly God for always making sure he is in the right place at the right time!

Matt is just getting started! Check out his full schedule on his website, www.mattjamesonacoustic.com, Follow him on Facebook or any of the social sites, facebook.com/mattjamesonacoustic. Most importantly make plans to come out to a show and have a good time!

RIDER'S ON THE STORM

By Chris Rider

And just like that, it's warm and sunny and June is about here. With the warm weather comes outdoor music which is definitely some of my favorite as shown by half the shows I covered this past month were outside. Over half of the bands I saw this month were new to me too which is always nice and ranged from Jam bands, to Blues bands, to Metal. Diversity is the spice of life, or so they say LOL.

My first trip out was to HMAC in Harrisburg for a show I'd been looking forward to since its announcement a few months ago. I first saw a video a few years ago of Too Many Zooz on Facebook...this crazy guy jamming on his Bari-Sax in the NYC subways and moving and dancing in ways that shouldn't be possible while playing such an instrument...but there he was doing it anyhow. For this tour, Lucky Chops and Moon Hooch joined up with Too Many Zooz. All three bands played individually, and together or with mixtures from any of the three bands throughout the evening with as many as twelve musicians on stage at a time. With a huge brass sound, sick dance moves, and an awesome crowd; these folks brought an awesome show mixing flavors of rock, pop, edm/rave, jam and big band sounds culminating in an awesome collaborative song they wrote together just for this tour called "Fathers and Sons."

BSCP 25th Anniversary Mom I Picnic

Next up was a trip down to the Roadhouse Pavilion season opening show at Appalachian Harley in Mechanicsburg for my first time finally catching Gun Metal Gray. The guys played a great mix of originals and covers including Crazy Train, Immigrant Song, and Hotel California. They brought in a huge crowd, there was a ton of beautiful bikes on hand and it all made for a great afternoon.

The following weekend I headed down to Hanover for the second annual Rock On The Hill Music Festival. With 19 bands on two stages over the course of the day, it made for a busy one trying to make sure I captured them all. It also makes it hard to write about each band and artist that played, but I do want to talk a little about one performance that just made the day for me. Unfortunately, due to a medical emergency, one of the bands had to bow out at the last minute. Event organizer Brenden Starr (who also performed that day) pulled the guys from Audiobox up on to the main stage with next to no notice or time to prepare to fill in the empty slot. The guys were doing a great job performing for the crowd, but they were then joined by various other performers from throughout the day and it turned in to one huge, unrehearsed jam session that drove the crowd absolutely nuts. I've seen it time and time again, artists who had never played together before, getting together and just belting out quality music as if they've played together for years...I won't pretend to understand how they do it, but it blows me away each time I see it. Kudos to Brenden and all the performers of the day for another well planned and executed festival. I can't wait to see what year three brings!

Dan Jamison & Joe Cigan

Our next trip out was to a venue I've been wanting to hit since it started having live music events: West Shore Theater in New Cumberland. I'd heard good things from a few other photographer friends of mine that'd already been there, so I had high hopes and was not disappointed. Opening up the evening was Dan Jamison & Joe Cigan, an acoustic duo covering songs like The Thrill Is Gone, Norwegian Wood, and the Junction Blues featuring some great dirty blues guitar work paired with solid and gritty vocals. These guys put on a great set. Headlining the evening was my buddy RJ Conrad and the guys in Rascal Revival. "Soon" was an incredible jam piece that showcased each of the members' individual talents, "Paint Me A Picture" is one of their new songs about all your hopes and dreams, it had a great story behind it and quickly became my new favorite of their tunes. The guys capped off the evening with a beautiful version of one of my all time favorite songs: "All Along The Watchtower".

Awake At Last

A few days later I headed down to Lovedraft's Brewing in Mechancisburg for what promised to be an energy packed night of rock put on by 717 Entertainment LLC. First up was Baltimore based Without The Accent. These guys were awesome, playing a mix of originals and covers including one of Sam Smith's "Body Shop in a sort of Nu-Metal/Metalcore style that worked really well. Next up was my pals in Dinosaurs In Paris. I've said it before, I'll say it again...every time I see these guys, they get better and better. If you're still somehow sleeping on them, it's time to wake up, for sure. They played a great set including a new and not yet released song "Hysteria" that really had the crowd going. Third on the bill was West Coast based NuMetal Rock band Reddstar. These guys had a huge energy and great sound that I really enjoyed a lot. Fourth on the bill was St Louis based Discrepencies. These guys were an absolute blast, sharing their original Nu-Metal/Rap/Rock tunes including "Not Alone" and really had the crowd moving and at one point moshing on the floor. Headlining the evening was Awake At Last. These guys have been playing and touring for about 12 years now, and their experience showed. They had an awesome stage presence, great

continued on next page...

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Alex Warner

So there it is, my month of music through my eyes and ears. Just a reminder: if you've got a show coming up that I should see; make sure to send me an invite, shoot me an email or a message, let me know about it. Venues: please don't hesitate to reach out to me as well. The majority of the shows that I go and shoot I find out about through invites from all of you or your friends. Hit me up on facebook: @chrisriderphotography or email: chrisriderphotography@gmail.com, stop me if you see me and say hi. Until next month...go find some live music and give them and the venue your support, they truly need it more now than they ever did.

sound, and interacted with the crowd throughout the show with songs like Purgatorium, Landmines, Welcome To Life, and many more.

My last trip out for the month was down to the Mechanicsburg Club Picnic grounds for the Blues Society of Central PA's 25th anniversary Mom I picnic. Huge shout to JD John for inviting the magazine out to cover this awesome event. Six bands played throughout the day: Blue Elephant, Blues On The Loose, Krypton City Blues Review Tribute Band (featuring Nate Myers and Pete Netznik of Nate Myers & The Aces), The Humblers, Slaughterhouse Blues, and the Dane Paul Russel Band. Not only was the music fantastic, the food tasty, but everyone involved in the event from organizers to music fans were just very welcoming and cool to hang out with. It definitely made for a great cap to the music for the month which we enjoyed a lot!

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6/4 Brandon Barnhart
6/10 Not So Hollywood
6/11 Leadfoot
6/17 Back In Black
6/18 Vertigo Vultures Acoustic Trio
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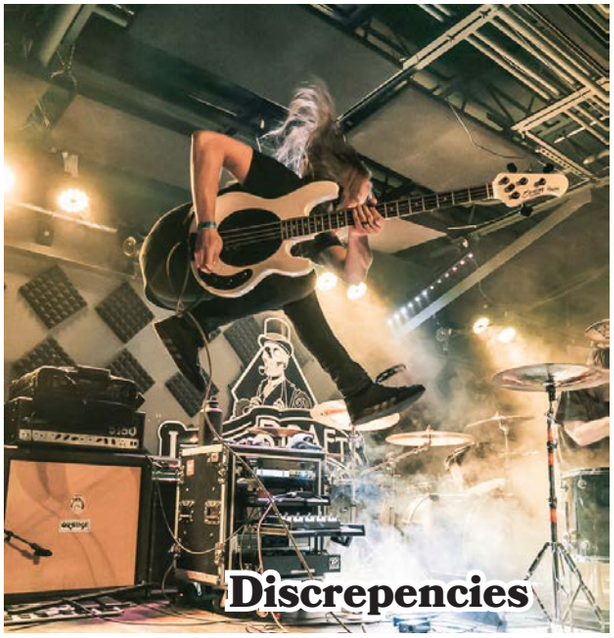


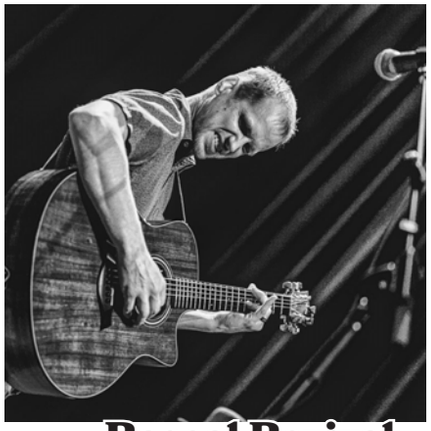
Discrepencies

BSCP 25th Anniversary
Mom I Picnic

Dinosaurs In Paris

Chris Rider Photography

Audiobox & Friends
at Rock On the Hill



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THE PROFESSOR

By Jim Price

Another cycle around the sun signifies that I have completed my 36th year of writing for PA Musician this month! As I ponder if or when I'm ever going to start slowing things down in my quest to cover live music, I realize that I am busier than ever, and loving every minute of it! Thanks to Josh Noll for continuing to provide the opportunity for me to keep doing these monthly duties for PA Musician, even if pulling an all-nighter (or two) around deadline time is part of it! Thanks to all the musicians who keep inspiring me to continue this endeavor, and all the readers for their support and kind words!

Outdoor live music continued its surge in recent weeks… The Blair Creators Festival filled downtown Altoona's Heritage Plaza with arts, crafts, food, refreshments and live music on the last Saturday in April. Organized by ArtsAltoona and Penn State Altoona's Sheetz Fellows program, the festival featured eight bands on the plaza railcar stage, beginning with Asbury Lane. Singer and guitarist Jeremy Schimansky, singer Tami Hinish and harmonica player Jack Coyle set the day's pleasant tone with acoustic favorites from Johnny Cash, John Denver, John Prine, Old Crow Medicine Show and more. Next was my first look at another of the growing crop of area youth bands, Lilly-based rockers After School Special. Comprised of lead guitarist Collin Borlie, drummer C.J. Myers, bassist Jude Hudkins and singer Robert Yeager; After School Special did impressive work on a variety of classic rock numbers from the 1960s through 90s – including songs from CCR, Greg Kihn Band, Toto, Led Zeppelin, The Clash, Cheap Trick, Beatles, Lynyrd Skynyrd and more. Another group I was seeing for the first time this day was the following group, Altoona's Vision Manifest. This acoustic group – singers Tiffany Westover, Jess Veach and Curtis Tracy, singer and guitarist Matthew Sheedy and percussionist Aaron Antesberger – packed excellent vocals and harmonies throughout their set of classic and current pop, soul, folk and country favorites; including four-part harmonies on The Band's "The Weight!" In between bands, programs from the Arc of Blair County performed in Heritage Plaza's main court, including Arc singing groups and drummers. Although I was emceeing at the main stage, it was a pleasure to sit in with the Arc drummers and their facilitators from the Joy Drummers. Back at the main stage, Hot Fudge Mondaes accelerated the musical pace with their hard-hitting mix, as they played a number of their original songs plus a few punk-geared favorites. Some of their originals included their first recorded single, "Sorrow," as well as "Don't Mean Nothing," "So Long," "So Far From Fine" and more. Seven members strong, Altoona's Tom Nevers Field then brought ska, punk and reggae sounds to the stage; including numerous original songs such as "Impossible," "Hold My Hand," "Hey Mr. Newsman" and more, also a cover of the Ramones' "Blitzkrieg Bop." Sans drummer Brad Hengst this day, the Bad Luck Lover Boys performed as a trio, mixing their punk/pop-driven original songs with select favorites. The group did songs from their "Letters to Emily" album such as "Anything at All," "Somewhere Girl," "London Fog," "Movie Song," Corey's Hangover" and more. Youthful Roaring Spring-based rockers The Pines added to the musical excitement with their wide mixture of classic and vintage rock. Singer Daman Mills, guitarist Logan Warner, bassist and keyboardist Alex Snyder and drummer Ben Brumbaugh kept the audience excited with numbers from Van Halen, The Sweet, Romantics, Beatles, Elvis Presley, Billy Joel, Poison, plus two of their own original tunes, "Want More" and "That's All Right." And Altoona's Sweet Desire slammed the lid on the day with their action-packed set of original rock and select classic rock covers. The roster of singer Jordan McCaulley, guitarist Kenton Lewis, bassist Joshua Simp-

continued on next page...

Jim Price introducing "The Pines at Blair Creators Fest

Daman Mills & Alex Snyder of The Pines

Jordan McCaulley & Trey Boore of Sweet Desire

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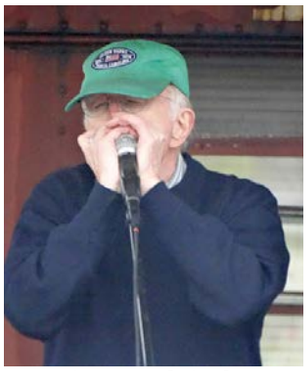
son and drummer Trey Boore tapped into their late 1960s/early 1970s blues rock foundation for numbers from Blue Oyster Cult, the Rolling Stones, Led Zeppelin and others, and performed scorching original numbers such as "Too Much to Please," "Want You Again" and their first single "Raspberry Joe Blues" (which will be issued on streaming platforms June 9). Sweet Desire sank fire and passion into their performance, escalating to their finale as they fused together Led Zeppelin's "Communication Breakdown" with "How Many More Times," before answering encore demands with Rush's "Working Man." The Blair Creators Festival generated a large turnout, happy vibes and community spirit throughout the day; kudos to everyone who worked to make it happen!



Guest, Jack Coyle with Asbury Lane

A rainy day didn't thwart the second annual Cann-a-Toona Festival, hosted by Tru Healing Concepts at their downtown Altoona location in late April. As rain fell, Lucid Yooth & the Cubensis Lenses and the PennSoulvanians performed prior to my arrival. I got there just before Clearfield foursome Innocent Sin brought their blend of blues, R&B and reggae. Singer Carli Jones, singer and guitarist Adam Caldwell, bassist Robert Misho and drummer Adam Moore mixed original songs with a few covers, generating a casual, soulful vibe along the way. Some of their numbers included versions of Gary Clark Jr.'s "Low Down Rolling Stone" and the Allman Brothers' "Whipping Post." As the rain ended, Hot Fudge Mondaes shifted musical gears into fast and loud to close the afternoon as they did punk and alternative-infused rock. Singer Jake Mowery, guitarists Breydon Bremer and Micah Button, bassist Kevin Neely and drummer Christian Wesner fired through original songs and covers. They did original numbers such as "Better Man" and "Put It on the Fridge," as well as numbers from Fall Out Boy, My Chemical Romance, Green Day, Jet, and – for their finale – merging their original song "Sorrow" into their volatile rendering of Rage Against the Machine's "Killing in the Name."

Downtown Bellefonte Inc. presented the Outdoor Adventure Expo at Talleyrand Park last month, and live music again served to entertain visitors as they browsed various outdoor-related vendors and displays, food and drink vendors and more. I arrived in time to see much of Southbound's set to open the afternoon. The acoustic trio of lead singer and guitarist Jon Phillippi plus guitarists Greg Hubler and Mike Nedrow, Southbound did solid work on their variety of country, acoustic rock and more. They did numbers from Willie Nelson, the Eagles, Elvis Presley, Bob Seger and Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, and also did a version of the Frank Sinatra-popularized "Summer Wind." Up next was the debut of the Centrefugues, featuring a Don and three Johns, all seasoned Centre County musicians. Former Frackwater Jack/Your Dad's Friends member Don Bedell sings and plays guitar; flanked by guitarist John Cunningham, bassist John "JK" Kennedy, and drummer and singer John Lynch. The Centrefugues played an eclectic mixture of music, mixing popular songs with deep cuts and lesser-known numbers. Some of their numbers included a version of Big Star's "In the Street" (known as the theme song to the TV series "That 70s Show"), Neil Young & Crazy Horse's "Everybody Knows This Is Nowhere," The Beatles "One After 909" and the Rolling Stones' "Respectable." They also did songs from The Refreshments, Foo Fighters, Smithereens, Todd Rundgren, Warren Zevon, Talking Heads, Tom Petty and more. The group's instrumental execution was tight, and they displayed strong vocals and harmonies – including Don's dead-on version of Van Morrison's "Into the Mystic."

Indoors, the Crazy Fest Amateur Youth Talent Show made its return in late April at the Juniata Civic Association in Altoona. Started in 1990 by entertainer Dennie Huber, "Crazy Fest" was brought back seven years after Dennie's passing, and a number of youngsters performed and competed for trophies, awards and other prizes in various age divisions. In the age 3 and under category, 2-year old Elizabeth Arthur

continued on next page...

Crazy Fest contestant Paisley Bauder

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CRAZY FEST 2023 AWARD WINNERS!!

won the top award for her singing of "You Are My Sunshine." In the age 4-6 category, Zori Lorraine won first place for her hip-hop dancing routine. In the 7-9 category, 8-year-old Carlynn Davis won for her dance routine. In the 10-12 division, Magdelin Oakes won for her country-themed dance routine. Magdelin also won the Angela Dodson Road to Nashville award and Typhani Russo's Top Notch Talent award, and the runner-up, ballet dancer Isobel Hess, won Typhani's Heart of an Angel award. In the 13-14 age division, Kyla Mulhollen won for her gymnastics routine. And in the 15-17 age category, Ava Conrad won first place for her singing of Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah." The runner-up, singer Emily Pentland, won Typhani's Most Promising Performer award and the Servello Family Studio's Terrific Technique award. The afternoon also saw guest performances from "Crazy Fest" alumni Dalton Farabaugh (slinging playing cards at celery, he can still captivate the house!), Elaini Arthur (who organized and emceed this year's event), Chet Denny (of the PennSoulvanians), former NBC "The Voice" contestant Jimmy Mowery and Typhani Russo (who also helped organize the event). Chet, Jimmy and Typhani lit up the house when they teamed up on a sing-along rendition of Bill Withers' "Lean on Me." James Lee, Jack Servello (who ran sound) and The Caldwells also performed. Congratulations to all the youngsters who boldly stepped into the spotlight to entertain and make "Crazy Fest's" comeback a big success. The event will return next year.

Altoona's Unter Uns Musical & Entertainment Society last month hosted the Benefit for Jackie Cone, which raised funds to help longtime area music fan Jackie as she faces a double-lung transplant. Live music was a big part of it. Work duties prevented me from seeing the afternoon's openers, The Band OZ with guest Eileen Christman on violin, but I understand they got things off to a rousing start. The house was packed as I arrived, with Felix & the Hurricanes on the stage. Love filled the room for Jackie, and the mood was joyful and lively as the Hurricanes roster of lead 'Cane, singer and guitarist Felix Kos, bassist and singer Pat McGinnis, and drummer and singer Bob Watters were joined by several guests – including singer Bobby Gates and guitarist Mark Middleton (who both played together in the 1970s area group I Heard The Owl), along with both Dave Villani and Harold Hayford staffing the keyboards. The Hurricanes and their accomplices played rousing numbers from the Allman Brothers, Deep Purple, Lynyrd Skynyrd and ZZ Top to wrap up their set. Next was The Pines, who kept the energy level high on their set of classic and vintage rock'n'roll favorites. It was again amazing to witness this young contingent sinking full heart, soul and intention into music mostly created decades before they were born! Opening with Steppenwolf's "Born to Be Wild," The Pines filled and kept the dance floor busy with numbers from the Doors, Allman Brothers, Bill Withers, Procol Harum, the Beatles, Elvis Presley, Logan Warner showing his guitar talents on Eddie Van Halen's "Eruption" into "You Really Got Me" and "Jump" to close the set. After thankful words from Jackie, R2B2 finished up with their dance party. Their next-to-last performance, the roster of lead singer and guitarist Rick Wertz, lead singer and keyboardist Mary Villani, guitarist Ric Criste, bassist Fritz Wyland and drummer Eric Wertz mixed up danceable rock, funk, pop, soul and country favorites that packed the dance floor. Opening with Pink's "Let's Get This Party Started," R2B2 kept the mood electric with tunes from Cameo, KC & the Sunshine Band, Pat Benatar, Roxette, Blondie and more. Guests Bill Hocherl and yours truly joined in with drummer Eric on percussion, resulting in a percussion jam ending to War's "Low Rider," and founding and former R2B2 drummer Beau Saller returned to the kit to help end the night on Shania Twain's "Man I Feel Like a Woman." Coupled with a prior Wednesday Jam Night fundraiser, this benefit helped raise more than $7,500 for Jackie – great to see the community come together!

Johnny 5 of 90s Alive
(Giants of Science do 1990s)

National recording group Sponge made their return visit to the stage at McGarvey's in Altoona last month. Under way as I arrived were Tampa, Florida-based indie rockers Kamenar, who opened the night. The brotherly duo of singer and guitarist Sean

continued on next page...

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and drummer John Kamenar delivered a full, high-energy sound on their set of original songs and select covers. The group did songs from their forthcoming album and their self-titled EP, including "Crazy Life"; and they also did a cover of Bush's "Everything Zen." Altoona's Sweet Desire followed with their classic rock-informed performance, doing numerous original songs and a few select covers. Led Zeppelin and The Doors are prominent influences in Sweet Desire's sound, and they did renditions of the Doors' "Roadhouse Blues" and Led Zeppelin's "Immigrant Song" and "Rock and Roll," the latter featuring an explosive Trey Boore drum solo. Sponge then took the stage and played a selection of songs from throughout their career. Joining lone founding member and frontman Vinnie Dombroski were guitarists Kyle Neely and Andy Patalan, bassist Tim Patalan and drummer Dave Coughlin. Opening with "Jump While the House Is On Fire," Sponge played their 1990s radio favorites such as "Wax Ecstatic," "Molly (16 Candles Down the Drain)," "Have You Seen Mary" and – to close the night – the high-powered hit "Plowed." They did the song "Stitch" off their new album "Lavatorium," as well as the title track to their 1994 debut album "Rotting Piñata," as well as "Glue," "Got to Be a Bore," "Silence Is Their Drug," "Treat Me Wrong," "Sick Of It All," "Drownin'" and a version of Pulp's "Common People." Vinnie's voice was in good form as he established a strong connection with the McGarvey's audience, and Sponge was instrumentally strong and kept the energy level high. According to Vinnie, Sponge will return to McGarvey's next year when they tour in support of the 30th anniversary of the release of the "Rotting Piñata" album.

Tribute bands also represented at McGarvey's in recent weeks…The "Halfway to Halloween" show in late April featured area Alice in Chains tribute Deny Your Maker and Type O Negative tribute Dead Again. Northern Cambria County's Deny Your Maker – singer Mike Davis, guitarists Bob Gray and Jeremy Ashurst, bassist Josh Yahner and drummer Damien Falatek – sounded strong as they mixed Alice In Chains favorites with several of the group's deeper and lesser-known tracks. The group generated momentum as they went through a stretch doing the numbers "Down in a Hole," "We Die Young," "Them Bones," "Dam That River" and "Rain When I Die"; and they ended strong with versions of "Man in the Box," "Rooster" and "Would?" Altoona's Dead Again followed with their "least worst" tribute to Type O Negative, successfully capturing that group's sound and aura with green lighting and backdrops. Singer Todd McKeone sounded excellent in the Peter Steele role, flanked by guitarists Chris Peters and Seth Rupert, bassist Eric Shumac, Alyssa Stevens Burgess on electronics and Randy Wilson on drums. Like Deny Your Maker, Dead Again also blended Type O's more popular material with several deep cuts. Opening with "I Don't Want to Be Me" and "Profit of Doom," Dead Again did convincing versions of "Love You to Death," "Wolf Moon," "My Girlfriend's Girlfriend," "Halloween in Heaven," "All Hallow's Eve," "Cinnamon Girl," "Black No. 1," "Christian Woman" and more… New York-based Slayer tribute Show No Mercy then made their first visit to McGarvey's last month, with Black Sun opening. Black Sun fractured Valhalla and awakened ancient gods with their mesmerizing merger of doom and thrash metal with progressive elements; highlighted by Todd McKeone's intense howls, Jason Feathers' scorching guitar solo displays, Jae Smith's sinister keyboard fills and embellishments, and the volatile rhythms from bassist Dave Mollica and drummer Nate Woods. Original numbers levied by Black Sun this night included "Under Mountain," "Thrall," "Gylfaginning," "Oskorei," "Perception" and more. Show No Mercy then showed no mercy as they unleased the fury that is Slayer's music. Four members strong, they captured Slayer's all-out velocity and intensity; doing such numbers as "Dead Skin Mask," "Outta Control," "War Ensemble," "Mandatory Suicide," "Postmortem," "Hell Awaits," "Angel of Death" and more.

Ted Bundy & Johnny Devil of the Legendary Hucklebucks

Pittsburgh's Legendary Hucklebucks brought their high-powered rock'n'roll back to McGarvey's in late April. I arrived in time to catch the last two songs of local openers The Jaded Lips, and then witnessed Pittsburgh's Thirteen Bends. Featuring lead singer and upright bassist Nick Scuglia and guitarist Greg Brozak, plus guitarist Dave Fresch and drummer Brian Gault (both also members of the Hucklebucks), Thirteen Bends delivered a raucous blend of country and rockabilly. They mixed original songs with interesting covers – including rockabilly renderings of Billy Idol's "White Wedding" and Black Sabbath's "Electric Funeral." The Legendary Hucklebucks then did what they do best, unleashing rip-roaring, roots-driven rock'n'roll. Singer and harmonica man Ted Bundy brought the enthusiasm and craziness up front, flanked by bassist Uncle Piddles, guitarists Dave Fresch and Johnny Devil, and Brian Gault again behind the drum kit. The Hucklebucks introduced some new songs, and did several of their favorites off the "Hillbilly Death Wrock Vol. I" CD such as "3 Sheets," "Don't Feed the Rats" and "B-Movie." They also did uniquely feral treatments of numbers from Jerry Lee Lewis, George Jones, AC/DC and more.

Philipsburg's StoneMan celebrated the release of their debut CD, "Heartbreaks," before a full house early last month at the group's home venue, the LaunchPad. It would turn out being the venue's swan song, as owner (and StoneMan lead singer) Shawn Inlow announced days later that the venue was closing its doors due to financial difficulties. But StoneMan gave the LaunchPad a fun and rousing send-off with their brand of piano-driven, blues and jazz-tinged rock and roll. Positioned in different spots throughout the room, Shawn, singer and keyboardist Steve Dixon, guitarist Nick Miller, keyboardist Rich Horton and drummer Jason Sopic performed numerous songs off the CD, as well as an eclectic mix of covers. From the album they did "What's Good for You," "Parkland," "I Guess You Would Know," "Same Place/Different Time" and others. StoneMan's cover selection was fascinating, as they did versions of David Bowie's "Starman,"

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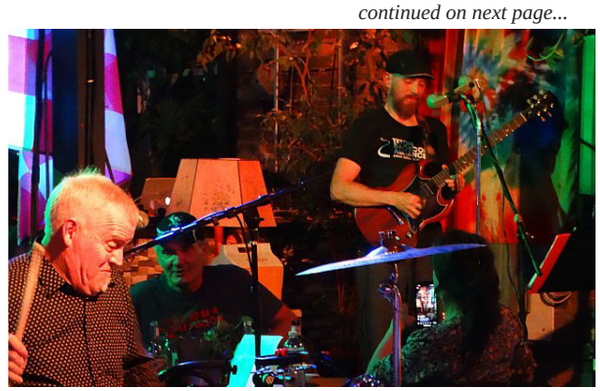

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THE PROFESSOR continued...

Elton John's "Honky Cat," a two-piano rendition of Black Sabbath's "War Pigs," Marvin Gaye's "What's Going On," Steve Winwood's "Roll With It," their tour de force rendition of Pink Floyd's "Pigs (Three Different Ones)" and more. StoneMan's overall musicianship and versatility dazzled throughout the show, and Shawn engaged tables and audience members as he strolled and sang throughout the room. Hopefully StoneMan can soon find another venue to continue their live musical magic, and the LaunchPad's special décor and atmosphere for experiencing live music will be missed.

I caught up with Johnstown's Silver Screen as they rocked the house at Johnstown's Woodside Bar & Grill last month. The room was empty when the group first started, but it didn't stay that way, steadily filling up as they fired off their hard-rocking mix of numbers spanning the 1960s through 1990s. Singer Stephen Platt, guitarists Ben Ressler and Kody Ofsanko, bassist Robbi Rummell and drummer Austin Danel rocked with tunes from Kiss, Jimi Hendrix, Oasis, Jet, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Creed, Green Day, Weezer, Foo Fighters and more. Silver Screen also sprinkled in a few of their own originals, including the new song "Daydreaming." The group steadily got the growing crowd excited and cheering, setting up for the night's rowdy finale rendition of Rage Against the Machine's "Killing in the Name." Silver Screen opens for Puddle Of Mudd at Jergel's in Warrendale on June 2.

Stephen Platt of Silver Screen

Altoona's Levity Brewing Company presented the duo of Eric Ian Farmer and Mary Ann Cleary in late April. It's always a pleasure experiencing Eric's pleasant and nuanced performance, from the delicate tones of his voice to the ways that he becomes a musical instrument himself. He and Mary Ann shared singing duties throughout the evening, mixing his originals with select cover material. Some of this night's highlights included Eric's rendition of Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah," Mary Ann playing ukulele and singing Bob Marley's "No Woman No Cry" and her sing/clap-along rendition of Tracy Chapman's "Give Me One Reason," Eric's extended and powerful treatment of Otis Redding's "That's How Strong My Love Is," and the pair's rousing version of Bill Withers' "Lean On Me" to finish the night. After a few area shows early this month, Eric will spend much of June in Colorado.

Other performers I saw recently included the traveling "Human iPod," John Rush, as he entertained students with acoustic music and karaoke during the Spring Week Carnival in late April at Penn State Altoona…Also "Pletch-Vello" – the duo of singer and guitarist Matt Pletcher, and drummer and singer Randy Servello – in late April at Altoona's Greenbean Coffee House…90s Alive, the 1990s music alter ego of the Giants Of Science, at Altoona's 4D's Lounge…The last two songs of Avenue Of Kings' recent performance at McGarvey's…An unusual Felix & the Hurricanes weekly Sunday performance at Altoona's Black & Gold Tavern; lead Hurricane Felix had to leave the show midway through with a sudden medical issue (not severe), with Rogan Allen taking over Felix's guitar to finish the night…And a singer and guitarist named Zack, who was busking outside the entrance to Altoona's Gourmet Buffet (Chinese restaurant) one Saturday last month.

The area music scene was saddened by the passings of several musicians in recent weeks…Keith Little passed on May 2 after a battle with cancer. He was 58. Keith was involved with musical productions at Northern Bedford High School, where he taught science for 30 years. And Keith was a member of several area bands through the years, including playing keys with popular Cambria County rock band Retroactive, and more recently playing guitar and singing with the band Emberstitch…The western PA music scene was saddened by the passing of Joe Serian. The longtime lead singer for Punxsutawney/Indiana-based classic rockers Down to the Wire, Joe passed away on May 8 at age 70 after battling heart issues. Joe was known for his incredible, high-ranging voice and upbeat stage personality, and friends and colleagues recalled his abilities to sing Steve Perry-era Journey and the song that became a favorite of Down to the Wire performances, Head East's "Never Been Any Reason."…And longtime Altoona area musician John Alamprese – "Johnny Al" – passed away on May 17 at age 76. Johnny was a gifted singer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist and composer who worked and performed on area stages, and took his musical craft to New York, Los Angeles, Florida and more. He released a 1991 cassette album with his studio group, Johnny Al, Kevin Bruce & the L.A. (Little Altoona) Street Band; that album, "For Adults Only," was recorded in Hollywood. Johnny used to be a frequent flyer during the popular Wednesday jam nights at the U.S. Hotel in Hollidaysburg during the late 1980s and early 90s…We at PA Musician share our heartfelt sympathies with the families, friends and colleagues of all three musicians.

News and notes…Images Of Eden was handed bad news last month when they were separated from W.A.S.P.'s European concert tour after opening shows in Norway and Sweden. The reason behind the development was not revealed; the group said it is now a legal matter and they cannot comment on it. The group has since returned to the United States and is working on new music toward their next album…The 10th annual Wam Bam Mountain Jam will take place outside Port Matilda on July 1; performers include the Chris Bell Duo, Forrester Grey, Luke Cimbala, Homegrown, Daystruck, Goatsmoker, JR Mangan Band, Caledonia, Donny Burns & the 3rd Degree, Broken Fayth, Sidewinder and The Roof. Admission is free, and all ages are welcome…The Pennsylvania Heritage Songwriting Contest (PHSC) announced the winners for their 15th annual contest for songs themed around Pennsylvania, its people, places and history. Former Huntingdon area musician now based in Nashville, Doug Forshey took first place with his song "Walter Main's Circus Train." Jim Moore from Norristown captured second place with his song "Gettysburg Snow," and Jason Bolinger of Nicktown placed third for his song creation "Belsano Job." The winners receive cash prizes plus the opportunity to perform their songs during the 2023 Smoked Country Jam Bluegrass Festival at Quiet Oaks Campground near Cross Fork June 15-17…State College favorites Pure Cane Sugar announced that after nearly 20 years, they will be stepping away from steady live performing; the group will continue to play out their regular performance schedule through July, and then will limit their live performing to special performances from time to time…Area country performer Zac Grace will be one of the local openers during Bret Michaels' Party Gras event tour stop on August 26 at the Hollywood Casino in Grantville…And Johnstown-based rock band Orange Fire recently added Reggie Heffner as their new female lead singer.

Jack Servello & Elani Arthur presenting Jim Price w/ Crazy Fest "Above & Beyond award

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PA MUSICIAN REVIEWS

By Jim Price

STONEMAN – HEARTBREAKS (no label) First founded in 2018, Philipsburg's StoneMan took their name from the signature stone figures that populate Rockton Mountain near Interstate 80 and Route 322 in Clearfield County. On their seven-song debut CD, "Heartbreaks," the group demonstrates its stone-solid brand of piano-driven rock. Two keyboard players – singer and pianist Steve Dixon and organist Rich Horton – provide the central keyboard thread of the group's sound, alongside guitarist Nick Miller and drummer Jason Sopic. Steve and StoneMan's co-founder, Shawn Inlow, share lead singing and chief songwriting duties. StoneMan's musical world merges elements of rock, soul, blues, jazz and progressive elements, and the group shows a knack for captivating and intriguing songs. Steve fronts the album's opening number, the edgy "I Guess You Would Know," which channels the frustrations and anger of a bad relationship into an intense, unforgiving blues-rocker; Nick's heated guitar solo work provides the slashing, finishing touches. In a milder vein, "Same Place/Different Time" looks at the passage of time and the wisdom gained through experiences and mistakes. Another blues-rocker, "What's Good for You," spits in the face of politician double-speak that professes what's good for voters while intending the exact opposite; Nick's heated guitar solos again pack additional sting into the number. "What Would You Do" juxtaposes youthful innocence and accrued wisdom along a relaxed, organ-underscored melody; while "Parkland" juxtaposes an upbeat, country-edged melody with cynical words about how nothing will ever be done about America's mass shooting problem. StoneMan plays their music with heart and soul; Steve and Shawn pack feeling and expression into each note they sing. The instrumental arrangements support and bolster each melody with just the right blend of taste and edge. Recorded at Shawn's performance venue (and StoneMan's home base) The LaunchPad and at OTM Studio, and engineered by Adam Bell, "Heartbreaks" sounds full, balanced and dynamic. "Heartbreaks" provides an invigorating listen from start to finish, as StoneMan provides a potent blend of rock, soul, groove and edge. An excellent first chapter. (The album can be obtained and accessed through the website www.cultureandcriticism.com.)

FELTSIDEOUT – CONFESSIONS EP (no label) From the York area, FeltSideOut's beginnings date back to 1996. The group evolved its style of heavy metal, and issued a full-length album, "Inertia," in 2021 through an independent record label. Their latest five-song EP, "Confessions," shows FeltSideOut's fierce yet melody-rooted brand of power metal. Lead vocalist and guitarist Jimi McClane, guitarist Tyler McClane, percussionist and keyboardist Gavin McClane, bassist Jimmy Williams and drummer Matt Graziosi (who departed the group in January, since replaced by Jason Hillegas) forge a focused, powerful sound. Jimi deftly shifts his vocal style between singing modes and volatile snarls, backed by a booming, full-force instrumental assault. Lyrically, all five songs are rooted in raw emotions stemming from life's trials and tribulations, as well as the harsh realities of today's music industry. Providing the bold and heavy start to the set, "Scrape" delivers the battle cry to fight through life's obstacles and persevere. With its infectious melody and chorus hook, the rumbling "Broken Crown" dresses down greed and deception, while the heavy-throbbing "Everything" professes that past mistakes can still have consequences. FeltSideOut unleashes the aggression on "Awake," displaying full velocity, ferocity and anger. The EP concludes with the somber-toned "White Lighter," lamenting the passing of a trusted elder and maneuvering the world without that person's guidance. FeltSideOut sounds strong and consistent through it all, solidly establishing their signature. Their melodies are direct and to the point, and the group's overall firepower drives each song on target. Engineered and produced by John Sambrick and recorded at Thornwall Studio in Lancaster, "Confessions" sounds appropriately powerful, full, balanced and edgy. FeltSideOut convincingly establishes their turf and identity with "Confessions," serving notice that they are a metal force to be reckoned with. (The EP can be accessed and obtained through digital online platforms.)

MEMORY COLLECTOR – FEAR DREAMS (no label) Altoona-based creator Sascha Frost established Memory Collector as his vehicle for exploring electronica and alternative-rooted sounds. He expands into some new musical turf on Memory Col-

continued on next page...

PA Musician Reviews continued...

lector's latest album, "Fear Dreams." He continues along his experimental electronic and ambient path, but also dabbles in modern funk and dance flavors among the album's 11 tracks. Most of the album is instrumental, with Sascha again composing, arranging and generating electronic-driven soundscapes that evoke moods and visions. The title track "Fear Dreams," which opens the album, starts with a dark and foreboding sequence, before the rhythm track kicks in and drives the number's plot forward, with side journeys and nuances surfacing along the way. "Scorpio Rising" picks up with another intriguing sequence and rhythmic backdrop for Sascha to explore. Next is a change of pace on the vocal number "Addicted," as Toronto-based guest singer Gina Lee sings of the addiction and temptation of love along a punchy key-led funk and pop arrangement. Sascha himself sings on two numbers, his description of dream visuals as an "Upside-Down Mirror Image," and on "We Drift Deeper," which incorporates the lyrics of Motorcycle's 2003 dance hit "As the Rush Comes." The album's remaining instrumental tracks all conjure their own sonic mystiques; including the rumbling presence of "Your Eyes Deceive You," the syncopation of "Time Lord," the spacey "We're Already There," the uptempo and danceable "Black Neon," the busy and rhythmic "Torrent" and the sinister-toned closer "Bad Mantra." Many of Sascha's creations here are responses to his own dreams as he balances the elements of his life; the complexities of his compositions sound more invested, as he ups the ante with more nuances, ranging from melodic side journeys to more layering and busier soundscapes. The overall production and mix sounds crisp, clear and full. Sascha Frost elevates his art and channels his own emotions on Memory Collector's "Fear Dreams," delivering a moving and compelling set. (The album can be obtained through Memory Collector's Bandcamp page, and accessed through online streaming platforms.)

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AFFILIATED BLUES SOCIETY

PERFORMING ON THE
WILLIAMSPORT SUN-GAZETTE
MAIN STAGE

FRIDAY, JUNE 9TH

UPTOWN MUSIC COLLECTIVE BLUES BAND
LAURIE MORVAN
TONY HOLIDAY
FRIENDS OF THE BROTHERS

SATURDAY, JUNE 10TH

BLUES AND GASOLINE
DIRTY MOJO BLUES BAND
BEN BRANDT & THE SOUL MINERS UNION
BEN LEVIN FT. LIL' JIMMY REED
MARK HUMMEL FT. ANSON FUNDERBURGH
JIMMY CARPENTER
JP SOARS GYPSY REVUE FT. ANNE HARRIS
ALTERED FIVE BLUES BAND

ON-SITE CAMPING
FOOD & CRAFT VENDORS • AND MORE!

BILLTOWNBLUES.ORG

Coexist Gallery is a Premium Glass Gallery and Smoke Shop located in Steelton, PA featuring local, American-made and other International glass products! We also carry smoking accessories such as incense, butane, candles, torches, cases, papers, blunts, disposable e-cigs and much more!! As well as a wide variety of CBD products which include lotions, tinctures and bath bombs. Our newest addition of products to hit the shelves are Crystals and Healing Stones including pendulums, pendants, marbles, and pillars! Come check out all we have to offer with a knowledgeable and friendly staff your sure to find everything your looking for and much much more!!

Melted Pot Coffee Shop Coming Soon!!

FARMERS MARKETS
WED 3P-7P
SAT 8A-1P

310 S. FRONT STREET STEELTON, PA 717-342-8144
CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR EVENTS AND STORE HOURS

www.Coexistgallery.com

MENTION THIS ADD AND RECIEVE 15% OFF
SOME EXCLUSIONS APPLY

OPEN MIC NIGHT

HOSTED BY:
JASON MESCIA
THE DARK SIDE OF THE YAM

1ST AND 3RD THURSDAY IN JUNE
JUNE 1ST, 15TH
7PM-11PM
DISCOUNTS AND DOOR PRIZES
(BYOB 21+)

-Unity Through Community-
Coexist Glass Gallery
COEXISTGALLERY.COM

JEFF SEMMERLING

Jeff Semmerling Returns to Coexist Gallery!
Save the dates: June 14th-17th! Get ready for another incredible artistic experience as Jeff Semmerling, the master mask maker, graces us with his presence once again. Following the phenomenal success of his Rick and Morty Masks and iconic Cheech and Chong creations, Jeff is back to captivate us with his exceptional talent. This time, he'll be working on a monumental puppet in celebration of Juneteenth. Don't miss out on this awe-inspiring showcase of artistry at Coexist Gallery! Stay tuned for more updates.

Interested in Medical Marijuana? Certifications are provided by JustMyDoc.com/cannabis